

REMARKS

A complete set of the approved Figures of the drawings is submitted.

Claims 48, 50, 52, 55, 56-61, 63, 67, 71, 73 and 75-78 are rejected as anticipated by Ezra, et al., U.S. 5,666,226. Claims 52 and 63 have been cancelled. Of these claims, the independent claims 48 and 57 have been amended to more clearly bring out the novel features of the invention.

Applicant's attorney thanks the Examiner for his thorough analysis of the claims relative to the prior art.

Referring to the amendment to clause (b) of independent apparatus claim 48, this refers to the embodiment of the invention in which an array of light dividing elements are used to produce the copies of the raster elements. An implementation of this are elements such as 13a, 13b, 13c of Fig. 4(a). Independent claim 57, clause (b) has been amended in a similar manner.

The system of Ezra lacks an array of optically inter-related light dividing elements to produce the copies of the raster elements.

Because of its construction, Ezra appears to be related to non-flat panel devices which necessitates the use of large correction lenses with diameters (and focal lengths) exceeding the image surface size. This makes it economically inexpedient to use Ezra's device in large dimension display construction. It is estimated that a 25" display would need correction lenses similar to that used in astronomical telescope. This is due to the use of a scanning technique where at all times the light source beam is mostly perpendicular to image surface, as provided by the use of Ezra's lens array.

The present invention as set forth in claims 48 and 57 uses a technique based on sequential division of the light source beams from the complementary screen into parts provided by an array of optically inter-related light dividing elements used to divide the light beams and transmit the divided beams to other elements of the system. This allows manufacture of light flat panel displays of high resolution. Ezra does not at all teach or suggest such an arrangement.

Accordingly, main apparatus claim 48 and its dependent claims 50, 52, 55-56, 71, 77 and 78 recite novel and advantageous subject matter and patentably distinguish over Ezra and should be allowed. The same is true for independent method claim 57 and its dependent claims 58, 59, 60, 61, 67, 73 and 76.

Claims 69 and 79 stand rejected over the combination of Ezra in view of Pu, et al., U.S. 5,483,365. Claim 79 has been canceled. Clause (b) of claim 69 has been amended much in the same manner as claim 48, as discussed above, relative to the array of optically inter-related light dividing elements. Pu is cited for its teaching of a holographic generator for generating a holographic image from a surface. The combination of Pu with Ezra does not cure the basic defect in the lack of teaching of the novel feature of the optically inter-related light dividing elements. Therefore these claims also are patentable and should be allowed.

The Examiner notes a disparity between a term used in the Specification and claim 69. Accordingly, in claim 69 the term "holographic generator" has been changed to "coherent light producing means", i.e., the laser 26 of Fig. 6. Accordingly, this objection has been satisfied.

Claims 80 and 81 have been added which respectively depend from claims 48 and 57. These recite a light conductor to transmit the light from the complementary screen to the image surface via the raster multiplying system. Reference is made to lines 17-25 of page 11 of the Specification. Ezra also does not show this feature. Accordingly, these two new claims also should be allowable.

The other art cited has been considered and is not deemed pertinent.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Prompt and favorable action is requested.

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